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Sudan:

Regime Exploits US Attack []

Regime leaders who favor a more confrontational approach to the US [] are using the US attack on al-Shifa to cow National Islamic Front officials [] who advocate a more pragmatic policy. [] In addition, the regime has rounded up supporters of the opposition National Democratic Alliance in Khartoum, accusing them of providing intelligence to the US after the NDA issued a lukewarm statement supporting the strike, according to press reports.

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The regime may use the attack as an excuse to put additional obstacles in the way of humanitarian relief efforts in southern Sudan. Sudanese officials claim US aircraft posing as humanitarian relief flights flew from bases in Kenya and Egypt and struck the plant, according to press reports.

[] Sudan last week closed its airspace to US aircraft but has not yet interfered with US-chartered relief flights. []

Meanwhile, Khartoum is moving to strengthen ties to other pariah states. []

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